

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 13-20 without disclaimer or prejudice and amend the following claims:

1. (Original) A process of preparing finasteride Form I, which process comprises dissolving finasteride in a solvent, replacing the solvent partially or substantially completely with a non solvent and thereafter isolating finasteride Form I.

2. (Original) A process according to claim 1, wherein replacement of said solvent comprises distilling off said solvent followed by addition of said non solvent.

3. (Original) A process of preparing finasteride Form I, which process comprises the steps of: (i) dissolving finasteride in a solvent to form a solution; (ii) distilling off the solvent from the solution obtained in step (i); (iii) adding a non solvent to the product of step (ii); and (iv) isolating finasteride Form I.

4. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein said solvent is methanol or dichloromethane.

5. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein dissolution of said finasteride in said solvent is carried out at a temperature in the range of ambient to reflux.

6. (Currently Amended) A process according to claim 1, wherein [[a]] the solution of the finasteride ~~solution obtained further to addition of finasteride to said~~ in the solvent is clarified using decolourising agents.

7. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein said non solvent is water.

8. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, wherein said non solvent is an organic solvent in which the solubility of finasteride is not more than about 5% w/v.

9. (Original) A process according to claim 8, wherein said organic non solvent is selected from the group consisting of hexane, heptane, octane, toluene, xylene, isobutyl acetate and isopropyl acetate.

10. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 1, further comprising a distillation step following the replacement step.

11. (Previously Presented) A process according to claim 2, further comprising stirring a precipitated product obtained following the replacement step.

12. (Original) A process of preparing finasteride Form I, which process comprises dissolving finasteride in a solvent, replacing the solvent partially or substantially completely with a non solvent, stirring a precipitated product obtained further to addition of the non solvent and thereafter isolating finasteride Form I.

13-20. (Cancel)